THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

CHAIRMAN Martin P. Honigberg

COMMISSIONERS Kathryn M. Bailey Michael S. Giaimo

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Debra A. Howland

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

December 28, 2017

TDD Access: Relay NH 1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-2431

FAX (603) 271-3878

Website: www.puc.nh.gov

Mr. Ajit Pai Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St. S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

Chairman Pai:

I am writing to urge the Federal Communications Commission to approve full funding by the end of this year for the rural companies that elected to receive federal Alternative Connect America Model (A-CAM) universal service support. By acting by the end of this year, the FCC will ensure additional citizens from New Hampshire will benefit from new and/or upgraded broadband services since companies that receive A-CAM support are obligated to provide those services under the FCC's 2016 order.

I understand each company's commitment to reach additional New Hampshire citizens based on greater funding expires by the end of the year. This presents a unique opportunity for the FCC to make an immediate impact and bring broadband services to rural citizens in our state and across the country. I also recommend that the FCC expeditiously evaluate additional universal service funding for the balance of New Hampshire rural customers so they too will have the benefit of adequate broadband service.

I appreciate your hard work and dedication in attempting to bridge the digital divide in rural America. Thank you for your attention to this matter. I urge you to approve additional A-CAM funding before the end of the year.

Sincerely,

Martin P. Honigberg

Chairman